

## Open Space Acquisition Ballot Measures

### November 1998

\* Draft dated December 3, 1998. Compiled by the Land Trust Alliance -- the national association of conservation organizations working with private landowners to protect open space. (202) 638-4725 or [www.lta.org](http://www.lta.org)

#### STATEWIDE GOVERNMENT ISSUES

State	Jurisdiction	YES	NO	Explanation	Funds Committed	Years	Annual Funds
		(winning vote in <b>bold</b> type)					
AL	Statewide	<b>74%</b>	26%	Constitutional amendment authorizing \$110 million in general obligation bonds to acquire, renovate and maintain state parks and historical sites.	\$111,000,000		
AZ	Statewide	<b>53%</b>	47%	Authorizes \$20 million annually to purchase state trust lands for conservation.	\$220,000,000	11	\$20,000,000
GA	Statewide	47%	<b>53%</b>	Would double real estate transfer tax and dedicate it to land protection.			
FL	Statewide	<b>76%</b>	24%	Extends indefinitely State's authority to sell bonds for land conservation.			
MI	Statewide	<b>61%</b>	39%	Dedicates \$50 million of much larger bond issue to local parks and recreation.	\$50,000,000		
MN	Statewide	<b>77%</b>	23%	Extends 40% of lottery funds directed to ENR Trust Fund to year 2025.	\$700,000,000	25	
NJ	Statewide	<b>66%</b>	34%	Dedicates \$98 million annually from state sales tax for 30 years for open space acquisition.	\$1,500,000,000	30	\$98,000,000
NM	Statewide	49%	<b>51%</b>	Would dedicate \$620,000 to buy "ecologically-sensitive" lands.			
OR	Statewide	<b>65%</b>	35%	Dedicate 15% of lottery funds to parks, open space and watershed protection.	\$700,000,000	15	\$46,200,000
RI	Statewide	<b>68%</b>	32%	Authorizes bonds for acquisition of greenways.	\$15,000,000	1	\$15,000,000

## COUNTY GOVERNMENT ISSUES

State	Jurisdiction	YES	NO	Explanation	Funds Committed	Years	Annual Funds
CO	Douglas County	<b>54%</b>	47%	15 year extension of 1/6 of a cent sales tax; allows county to use \$25 million in bonding authority.	\$25,000,000	15	
CO	Jefferson County	<b>71%</b>	29%	Authorizes \$160 million in bonding authority for open space acquisition.	\$160,000,000		
FL	St. Johns County	44%	<b>56%</b>	1/2 cent sales tax to buy land for preservation.			
KS	Johnson County	<b>69%</b>	31%	\$6 million general obligation bond for park	\$6,000,000		
MD	Baltimore County	<b>74%</b>	26%	Question F: borrow for parks, preservation, greenways?	\$3,088,000		
MD	Baltimore County	<b>71%</b>	29%	Question I: borrow for land preservation projects?	\$3,000,000		
MI	Washtenaw County	43%	<b>58%</b>	Would raise property taxes 4/10 mill for ten years for open space acquisition 50% (farmland); 25% (natural areas).			
NJ	Bergen County	<b>63%</b>	38%	Dedicates \$.005 per \$100 assessed property value; \$20 million in bonding authority.	20,000,000		
NJ	Burlington County	<b>59%</b>	41%	Double existing tax to \$.04 per \$100 assessed property value.			\$8,000,000
NJ	Camden County	<b>67%</b>	34%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value for farmland preservation.			
NJ	Essex County	<b>63%</b>	37%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Mercer County	<b>61%</b>	39%	Doubles existing tax to \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Morris County	<b>56%</b>	44%	Increase existing tax to \$.03 per \$100 of assessed property value to acquire farm and recreation land.			
NJ	Morris County	<b>64%</b>	36%	Dedicates \$.0025 per \$100 assessed property value to establish fund for park development.			

**COUNTY GOVERNMENT ISSUES (continued)**

State	Jurisdiction	YES	NO	Explanation	Funds Committed	Years	Annual Funds
NJ	Warren County	42%	<b>58%</b>	Would double existing open space tax to \$.04 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NM	Santa Fe County	<b>71%</b>	29%	A \$12 million bond issue for wildlife, trails, and historic preservation.	\$12,000,000		
NM	Bernalillo County	<b>59%</b>	41%	1/2 mill property tax levy for open space	\$7,000,000	2	
NY	Suffolk County (Long Island)	<b>66%</b>	24%	Authorizes \$62 million in bonds for "Community Greenways Fund"; funds recreation parks, habitat, farmland preservation.	\$62,000,000		
OH	Medina County	<b>60%</b>	40%	1/2 mill property tax levy for 10 years.		10	
OH	Summit County	<b>60%</b>	40%	.85 mill property tax levy for 5 years.	\$40,000,000	5	\$8,000,000
VA	Fairfax County	<b>71%</b>	29%	Allocates \$20 million for land acquisition from \$87 million bond for park activities.	\$20,000,000		
VA	Arlington County	<b>72%</b>	28%	\$8.5 million bond for land and facility acquisition.	\$8,500,000		

**TOWN AND CITY GOVERNMENT ISSUES**

State	Jurisdiction	YES	NO	Explanation	Funds Committed	Years	Annual Funds
AZ	City of Scottsdale	<b>69%</b>	31%	Authorized continued use of 2% sales tax revenue for expansion of City's McDowell Sonoran Preserve.		27	
CO	City of Greeley	43%	<b>57%</b>	Would dedicate a 1/20th cent sales tax for 10 years for land conservation; expected to raise \$5 million.	\$5,000,000		
CO	City of Lafayette	49%	<b>51%</b>	Would increase taxes for open space conservation.			
CO	Town of Breckenridge	37%	<b>63%</b>	Would increase taxes for open space conservation.			
CO	Town of Silverthorne	<b>69%</b>	31%	Tax increase for parks and open space.			

**TOWN AND CITY GOVERNMENT ISSUES (continued)**

State	Jurisdiction	YES	NO	Explanation	Funds Committed	Years	Annual Funds
CO	Village of Snowmass	<b>64%</b>	36%	Up to \$7 million in bond authority to acquire specific parcel; bonds to be repaid with property taxes.	\$7,000,000		
CT	Town of Bethany	<b>56%</b>	44%	Recommendation on open space spending.	\$500,000	5	\$100,000
CT	Town of Cheshire	<b>60%</b>	40%	\$1 million bond issue.	\$1,000,000		
CT	Town of Orange	<b>61%</b>	39%	\$2.39 million bond issue.	\$2,390,000		
FL	City of Davie	<b>67%</b>	33%	\$12 million general obligation bond for parks.	\$12,000,000		
FL	City of Wilton	<b>63%</b>	37%	\$3 million general obligation bond for park	\$3,000,000		
MA	Barnstable (Cape Cod)	<b>54%</b>	46%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.	\$15,000,000		\$8,500,000
					(Regional totals for Cape Cod)		
MA	Bourne (Cape Cod)	<b>52%</b>	48%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Brewster (Cape Cod)	<b>66%</b>	34%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Chatham (Cape Cod)	<b>66%</b>	34%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Dennis (Cape Cod)	<b>64%</b>	36%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Eastham (Cape Cod)	<b>61%</b>	39%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Falmouth (Cape Cod)	<b>59%</b>	41%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Harwich (Cape Cod)	<b>66%</b>	34%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Mashpee (Cape Cod)	<b>52%</b>	48%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Orleans (Cape Cod)	<b>70%</b>	30%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Provincetown (Cape Cod)	<b>66%</b>	34%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Sandwich (Cape Cod)	<b>57%</b>	43%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			

**TOWN AND CITY GOVERNMENT ISSUES (continued)**

State	Jurisdiction	YES	NO	Explanation	Funds Committed	Years	Annual Funds
MA	Truro (Cape Cod)	<b>59%</b>	41%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Wellfleet (Cape Cod)	<b>61%</b>	39%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Mashpee (Cape Cod)	<b>51%</b>	49%	Authorizes town to exceed spending limit by \$2.5 million for purchase of 200 acres.	\$2,500,000		
MA	Yarmouth (Cape Cod)	<b>53%</b>	47%	3% surcharge on property tax bills; reg. compact.			
MA	Stow (Middlesex County)*	<b>79%</b>	21%	Authorizes town to exceed spending limit by \$3 million for purchase of 250 acres.	\$3,000,000		
*This was a November 18 special election							
NJ	Closter (Bergen County)	<b>53%</b>	47%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Mahwah (Bergen County)	<b>69%</b>	31%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Rivervale (Bergen County)	<b>79%</b>	21%	New property tax of \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value for open space acquisition.		5	
NJ	Deiran (Burlington County)	37%	<b>63%</b>	Would dedicate \$.038 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Eastampton (Burlington County)	<b>76%</b>	24%	Dedicates \$.03 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Evesham (Burlington County)	<b>59%</b>	41%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Medford (Burlington County)	<b>57%</b>	43%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Moorestown (Burlington County)	<b>73%</b>	27%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Mt. Laurel (Burlington County)	<b>72%</b>	28%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			

**TOWN AND CITY GOVERNMENT ISSUES (continued)**

State	Jurisdiction	YES	NO	Explanation	Funds Committed	Years	Annual Funds
NJ	North Hanover (Burlington County)	47%	<b>53%</b>	Would increase tax to \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Voorhees (Camden County)	<b>61%</b>	39%	\$10 million in bonds over 20 years.	\$10,000,000	20	
NJ	Essex Falls (Essex County)	<b>60%</b>	40%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Cedar Grove (Essex County)	<b>57%</b>	43%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	East Amwell (Hunterdon County)	<b>61%</b>	39%	Increases tax to \$.04 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Union (Hunterdon County)	<b>70%</b>	30%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	East Greenwich (Gloucester Co.)	<b>65%</b>	36%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Hamilton (Mercer County)	40%	<b>60%</b>	Would dedicate \$.05 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Hopewell (Mercer County)	<b>66%</b>	34%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value for open space, recreation, farmland acquisition.			
NJ	Pennington (Mercer County)	<b>77%</b>	23%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Washington (Mercer County)	<b>71%</b>	29%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	West Windsor (Mercer County)	<b>74%</b>	26%	Increases property tax from \$.02 to \$.07 per \$100.			
NJ	Edison (Middlesex County)	<b>55%</b>	45%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value for acquisition for next 15 years.			15
NJ	Old Bridge (Middlesex County)	49%	<b>51%</b>	Would dedicate \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value for next 10 years.			10

**TOWN AND CITY GOVERNMENT ISSUES (continued)**

State	Jurisdiction	YES	NO	Explanation	Funds Committed	Years	Annual Funds
NJ	Colts Neck (Monmouth County)	<b>69%</b>	32%	Increases existing tax to \$.025 per \$100 assessed property value for open space acquisition.			
NJ	Hazlet (Monmouth Cov)	49%	<b>52%</b>	Would dedicate \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value for open space.			
NJ	Holmdel (Monmouth County)	<b>59%</b>	41%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Manalapan (Monmouth County)	49%	<b>51%</b>	Would dedicate \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Middletown (Monmouth County)	<b>55%</b>	46%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed prop. value			
NJ	Millstone (Monmouth County)	<b>52%</b>	48%	Non-binding referendum giving town authority to buy recreation land.			
NJ	Tinton Falls (Monmouth County)	<b>59%</b>	41%	Dedicates \$.015 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Jefferson (Morris County)	<b>63%</b>	37%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Mendham Boro (Morris County)	<b>74%</b>	27%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Mendham Twp (Morris County)	<b>60%</b>	40%	Increases existing tax to \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Mt. Olive (Morris County)	<b>54%</b>	46%	Increases existing tax to \$.03 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Wharton (Morris County)	<b>73%</b>	27%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Plumstead (Ocean County)	<b>71%</b>	29%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Stafford (Ocean County)	43%	<b>57%</b>	Would dedicate \$.012 per \$100 assessed property value for open space and recreation.			

**TOWN AND CITY GOVERNMENT ISSUES (continued)**

State	Jurisdiction	YES	NO	Explanation	Funds Committed	Years	Annual Funds
NJ	Bernardsville (Somerset County)	<b>63%</b>	37%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Branchburg (Somerset County)	<b>63%</b>	38%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Bridgewater (Somerset County)	<b>50%</b>	50%	Dedicates \$.04 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Franklin (Somerset County)	<b>58%</b>	43%	Dedicates \$.03 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Hillsborough (Somerset County)	<b>54%</b>	47%	Doubles existing tax to \$.04 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Peapack (Somerset County)	<b>69%</b>	31%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Watchung (Somerset County)	<b>51%</b>	49%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Hampton (Sussex County)	<b>54%</b>	46%	Dedicates \$.03 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Hopatcong (Sussex County)	43%	<b>57%</b>	Would dedicate \$.03 per \$100 assessed property value for open space.			
NJ	Frankford (Sussex County)	<b>60%</b>	40%	Dedicates \$.01 to \$.03 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Blairstown (Warren County)	42%	<b>58%</b>	Would dedicate \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value for open space.			
NJ	Franklin (Warren County)	<b>55%</b>	45%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Hardwick (Warren County)	<b>63%</b>	37%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Harmony (Warren County)	<b>64%</b>	36%	Dedicates \$.01 per \$100 assessed property value.			



**TOWN AND CITY GOVERNMENT ISSUES (continued)**

State	Jurisdiction	YES	NO	Explanation	Funds Committed	Years	Annual Funds
NJ	Independence (Warren County)	<b>52%</b>	48%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	Liberty (Warren County)	<b>50%</b>	50%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NJ	White (Warren County)	<b>62%</b>	38%	Dedicates \$.02 per \$100 assessed property value.			
NY	Huntington (Nassau County)	<b>70%</b>	30%	\$10 million bonding authority for open space.	\$10,000,000		
NY	Southold (Suffolk County)	<b>66%</b>	34%	\$2 million bond act for open space protection.	\$2,000,000		
NY	Riverhead (Suffolk County)	<b>60%</b>	40%	Created "land bank" to be funded by 2% buyers real estate transfer tax.			
NY	Southold (Suffolk County)	<b>60%</b>	40%	Created "land bank" to be funded by 2% buyers real estate transfer tax.			
NY	Shelter Island (Suffolk County)	<b>72%</b>	28%	Created "land bank" to be funded by 2% buyers real estate transfer tax.			
NY	East Hampton (Suffolk County)	<b>66%</b>	34%	Created "land bank" to be funded by 2% buyers real estate transfer tax.			
NY	Southampton (Suffolk County)	<b>60%</b>	40%	Created "land bank" to be funded by 2% buyers real estate transfer tax.			
NC	City of Wake Forest	<b>68%</b>	32%	Authorizes \$3.2 million bond issue for parks and recreation, including land acquisition.	\$3,200,000		
OR	Lake Oswego	<b>65%</b>	35%	Authorizes \$6 million bond issue for open space acquisition	\$6,000,000		
OR	City of Eugene	<b>67%</b>	33%	Authorizes \$25 million bond issue; \$9.4 million for land acquisition.	\$9,400,000		
OR	City of Portland	49%	<b>51%</b>	\$65 million bond for park renovation, construction			

**TOWN AND CITY GOVERNMENT ISSUES (continued)**

State	Jurisdiction	YES	NO	Explanation	Funds Committed	Years	Annual Funds
RI	City of Warwick	<b>69%</b>	31%	Authorizes \$3 million open space and recreation bond issue.	\$3,000,000		
RI	Town of Bristol	<b>83%</b>	17%	Authorizes \$1.5 million bond issue for farmland preservation.	\$1,500,000		
RI	Town of South Kingston	<b>77%</b>	23%	\$1.1 million bond issue for open space.	\$1,100,000		
RI	Town of East Greenwich	<b>71%</b>	29%	\$1 million bond issue for open space.	\$1,000,000		
SC	City of Hilton Head	<b>79%</b>	21%	\$12 million general obligation bond for land acquisition.	\$12,000,000		
TX	City of Austin	<b>60%</b>	40%	Proposition 2: authorizes \$36 million bond for open space acquisition.	\$36,000,000		
TX	City of Austin	<b>57%</b>	43%	Proposition 8: authorizes \$9 million bond for land acquisition to protect drinking water.	\$9,000,000		
TX	College Station	<b>65%</b>	35%	Authorizes \$3.6 million bond for open space	\$3,600,000		
UT	Park City	<b>77%</b>	23%	Authorizes \$10 million bond for open space	\$10,000,000		
		<b>134</b>	<b>TOTAL ALL ELECTIONS (WITH RESULTS)</b>		\$3,831,778,000	Total	
<b>Winning elections</b>		<b>116</b>	87%				
<b>Losing elections</b>		<b>18</b>	13%				

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